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TO: Commissioner for Patents
Attn: Examiner Alicia Ann Chevalier
Patent Examining Corps
Facsimile Center
Washington, D.C. 20231

FROM: Mark DiPietro

OUR REF: 9340.680US11

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Title of Document Transmitted:
Applicant: Giuseppe Puppini
Serial No.: 09/522,353
Filed: 03/09/2000
Group Art Unit: 3094
Our Ref. No.: 9340.680US11

Amendment and Response

Please charge any additional fees or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. 13-2725. Please consider this a PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME for a sufficient number of months to enter these papers, if appropriate.

By: Mark DiPietro
Name: Mark DiPietro
Reg. No.: 28,707

I hereby certify that this paper is being transmitted by facsimile to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on the date shown below.

Darlene M. Stack

Darlene M. Stack
Signature

May 9, 2003
Date

S/N 09/522,353

PATENTIN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant:	PUPPIN	Examiner:	A. CHEVALIER
Serial No.:	09/522,353	Group Art Unit:	1772
Filed:	MARCH 9, 2000	Docket No.:	9340.680USH
Title:	HINGED THERMOPLASTIC-FABRIC REINFORCED STRUCTURAL MEMBER, PROFILE AND METHODS THEREFORE		

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE

Mail Stop: Non-Fee Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated February 11, 2003, Applicants submit the following Amendment and Remarks. Reconsideration of the claims is respectfully requested.

AMENDMENTSIn the Claims

Please amend the claims to read as follows:

1. (Thrice Amended) A hinged, composite structure comprising a first rigid thermoplastic area, a second rigid thermoplastic area, and at least one flexible hinged region, wherein a fabric is embedded in the first rigid thermoplastic composite area and the second rigid thermoplastic composite area and hinged region, and wherein said first and second rigid areas are joined through the at least one flexible hinged region, so as to permit rotation of the first rigid area relative to the second rigid area about the hinged region, wherein the first rigid area and the second rigid area include bends at pre-determined distances from the hinged region, and wherein further at least one portion of said at least one flexible hinged region is coated with a flexible sealant.